

Appl. No.: 09/737,752
Amdt. Dated: December 29, 2003
Reply to Office Action of: October 8, 2003

REMARKS

This amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated October 8, 2003. Claims 1 - 8 are pending in this application and have been rejected. Reexamination is respectfully requested in light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Amendment to the Title

Applicant has submitted with this amendment a proposed new title. Should the Examiner have any further objections to the title, it is respectfully requested that he telephone the undersigned.

Claim Objections

Claim 5 has been objected to. Applicant has amended claim 5 as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Claims 1 - 3 and 5 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by Irwin '952. Claims 1 - 2 and 7 - 8 have been rejected as anticipated by Richards '992 and claims 1 - 3 and 8 have been rejected as anticipated by Aoki '436.

Since claims 4 and 6 were indicated to be allowable, they have been redrafted in independent form and presented as new claims 9 and 10.

Claim 1 has now been amended to more clearly define Applicant's invention and to define over each of the references

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Irwin, Richards and Aoki. The amendment in claim 1 is the inclusion of the dichroic mirror.

Irwin '952

Irwin '952 shows a flat screen color video display which has colored light sources (25) and a corresponding electronic driving circuit. In this display there is no use of a dichroic mirror because the colors are separated as exit sources (25). Therefore, '952 is no longer anticipated.

Richard '992

Richards '992 shows a retroreflective mirror (64) which is not used for guiding light from a light source to at least one dichroic mirror and a light valve element. The Examiner has recognized in the Office Action that mirror (64) does not guide to the light valve because the Examiner eliminated this language in discussing the claim. '992 is, therefore, distinguished on the ground that there is no dichroic mirror and there is no light valve unit which receives light from the retroreflective mirror (64).

The retroreflective mirror (64) of Richard is described at column 5, beginning at line 6 and continuing through line 20. The retroreflective mirror (64) is described as a mirror in which incident light is reflected in the same direction as the incident direction which is substantially 180° to the incident signal (82). The retroreflective mirror (64) differs from conventional spherically curved mirrors in that practically all rays of incident

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light upon return in exactly the same spatial position that they originated from.

Generally retroreflective mirrors should be a plane mirror. This would allow light entering perpendicular to return at 180°. Therefore, the retroreflective mirror disclosed in '992 is totally different from Applicant's claimed invention which uses a curved mirror to solve the problem which is difficult to solve in the case of plane mirrors as used in '992.

Aoki '436

Aoki '436 while showing a mirror (21) and light valve (22) (LCD) does not show, teach, or suggest the use of a dichroic mirror. In fact, '436 discusses in column 1, liquid crystal displays which comprise valves (black and white) and dichroic mirrors (7G, 7B) shown in Figure 1 (prior art). '436 at lines 50 to 55 teaches:

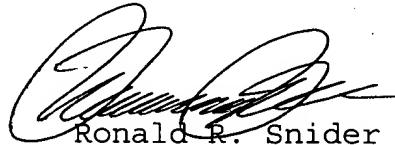
"To solve problems of spherical and chromatic aberrations of the lens, the prior art device calls for a combination of many complicated lenses - this inevitably increases a loss of the quantity of light by them."

It is the object of '436 to avoid the problems of dichroic mirror devices by utilizing an entirely different projection system, namely those having color active matrix liquid crystal display units. Since '436 is not in the environment of a dichroic mirror, it clearly does not anticipate claim 1 as now amended.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance, and early action in accordance thereof is requested. In the event there is any reason why the application cannot be allowed in this current condition, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned at the number listed below to resolve any problems by Interview or Examiner's Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,



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